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AGENDA ITEM 7: PROGRAMME MATTERS, INCLUDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

FOLLOW-UP TO THE VIII MINISTERIAL MEETING ON THE GOVERNMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Note by the Executive Director

Addendum

1. The Executive Director has the honour to bring to the attention of the Governing Council the text of the recommendations on the Environmental Training Network in Latin America and the Caribbean endorsed by the VIII Ministerial Meeting on the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean with its resolutions.

2. The Governing Council may wish to take note of this resolution and to point out those measures which it considers appropriate for their effective follow-up, within the framework of UNEP's future activities.

Annex II

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL TRAINING NETWORK

I. GENERAL AGREEMENTS

1. Upon the follow-up of the decisions adopted by the Inter-sessional Policy Body of the Action Plan for the Environment, it is recommended to continue assigning maximum priority to the General Programme of the Environmental Training Network and its organic integration to the Action Plan for the Environment in Latin America and the Caribbean.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REGION

1.1. That the Ministers make the necessary arrangements, both as to time and procedure, to pay their outstanding contributions to the Network Trust Fund and agree on the mechanisms making said contributions viable, considering each country's conditions and restrictions; report to the UNEP, within the term of two months, on the progress of their negotiations to expedite these contributions.

1.2. That they establish mechanisms allowing the contributions to the Fund to be regularly and expeditiously made before May 31 of the corresponding fiscal year.

1.3. To stress the importance of non-Spanish speaking countries participation in the Environmental Training Network in light of the objectives of the Action Plan of Latin America and the Caribbean.

1.4. That the National Focal Points send to UCORED, in the term of two months, a programme of activities, including the courses and seminars that could be incorporated into the Network Regional Programme. These activities should reflect the priorities assigned by the countries to the environmental training.

2. TO GOVERNMENTS OF NON-SPANISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES.

2.1. That those countries already members of the Network reaffirm their commitment to this Programme.

2.2. That those countries which are not yet members of the Network give special consideration to joining this Programme.

2.3. That the non-Spanish speaking countries of the region identify those priority areas that they wish the Network to address.

2.4. That the non-Spanish speaking countries identify to UNEP those institutions that might qualify as centres of excellence for the Network.

3. TO UNEP

3.1. To approve the extension of the Trust Fund until December 31, 1994;

3.2. To prepare an accounting report of the Programme's budget year for 1992.

3.3. To continue to conduct deliberations with those potential centres of excellence that might serve the non-Spanish speaking Caribbean with the view to including these institutions and their Environmental Training Programming in the Network.

3.4. To reinforce and expand the collaboration between the Caribbean Environment Programme and the Environmental Training Network.

3.5. To seek additional sources of funding to facilitate the development of specific environmental training activities.

4. TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE REGION AND UNEP

4.1. To restructure and reorganize the Environmental Training Network Programme based upon its progress and consolidation conditions, including the review of the Rules of Procedure and Coordination of the Programme. To that end, UCORED shall prepare a basic diagnosis and a proposal to be submitted to the countries within five months, which shall serve as an input for a future meeting of the representatives of the Network's National Focal Points, and which costs shall be covered by each participant country.

4.2. To approve the proposal as regards the amounts for the financing of the General Programme of the Network made on Document UNEP/LAC-EC.2/3 and request UNEP to cover, as from 1993, staff and operating costs of the Regional Coordination Unit of the Network to an amount of US$ 270,000. The Programme's Trust Fund shall be allocated to its activities and projects, managing with flexibility the allocation of resources from both the Trust Fund and the Environment Fund, to the different budgetary items, giving priority to the fellowships' fund of the Programme, which should not be lower than 30% of the aggregate consolidated budget.

4.3. To consolidate the environmental training process, establishing a system of Post-graduate Courses in Critical Environmental Areas, based upon the evaluation, assessment and accreditation of the courses, from the proposal of the Inter-Agency Regional Project of the Network. New proposals by the centres for excellence of the countries of the region shall be added to the project. Those courses

of the Inter-Agency Regional Project having funds should be incorporated into the General Programme of the Network.

4.4. To seek the involvement of Spanish and English speaking countries in activities of the Environmental Training Network.

5. To UCORED/UNEP:

5.1. To focus their activities as follows:

a) **Identify, promote and develop environmental training courses of excellence** to be integrated into the Network, taking into account the priorities assigned by the countries of the region.

b) **Establish a Regional Environmental Education and Training System,** formed by short training courses and professional specialization and post-graduate courses, given on a regular basis with regional or subregional coverage.

c) **Organize workshops and seminars** aimed at developing knowledge and methodologies, exchanging experiences and designing regional courses in critical environmental areas.

d) **Offer technical assistance and academic advisory services** to the governments of the region, upon request, as well as to Universities, Training Centers and non-Governmental Organizations, to develop environmental training programmes, courses and activities.

e) **Establish an information service** on environmental training programmes and courses within and without the region, including fellowship opportunities for participants of the Region.

f) **Publish the Newsletter** *Environmental Training* to promote a broad process of communication, liaison and exchange between governmental organizations, international agencies, research, training and educational centres and civil associations.

g) Coordinate an **Editorial Programme** with different institutions (universities, international cooperation agencies, non-governmental organizations, and so forth) to publish books, proceedings, guidelines and handbooks with theoretical, methodological and technical knowledge for the development of training modules, curricula and courses in the different subject areas related to environment and sustainable development.

6. THE MEETING EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE:

6.1. To the different Governments for the efforts made to move forward in consolidating the Network Programme and their contributions to the Trust Fund;

6.2. To the United Nations Environment Programme for the support it has provided to develop and finance the Programme;

6.3. To international agencies and regional training organizations for their cooperation in helping the Network Programme advance;

6.4. To the Government of Chile for its hospitality and sponsorship of the Meeting of the Executive Council of the Environmental Training Network for Latin America and the Caribbean.

6.5. To ECLAC for the support provided to the Meeting.